

CHURCH AND STATE NEWSLETTER

COMPILED AND CIRCULATED BY

PROTESTANTS AND OTHER AMERICANS UNITED FOR SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE

1633 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE., N. W., WASHINGTON 6, D. C.



VOL. 4 NO. 1

JANUARY 1951

Blanshard to Share Platform With Poteat at Conference

Freshly returned from a lengthy stay in Rome, Paul Blanshard, author of *American Freedom and Catholic Power*, has accepted POAU's invitation to share the platform with President Edwin McNeill Poteat at the Third National Conference on Church and State in Constitution Hall, Washington, D. C., on Thursday evening, February 1, 1951. With Dr. Poteat analyzing the state of religious liberty within the United States today, and Dr. Blanshard giving a first-hand account of conditions in the international sphere, those attending the great mass meeting will be enabled to form a well-rounded picture of church-state relations both at home and abroad. (To receive two reserved-seat tickets, send \$1.00 to POAU headquarters now.)

Dr. Blanshard's eye-opening book has been on the non-fiction best-seller lists for well over a year, in spite of persistent efforts to enforce a boycott against it through such tactics as economic pressure on booksellers (*Church and State Newsletter*, October, 1949), picketing of public discussions of the subject (*Church and State Newsletter*, December, 1950), and the like.

Conference program on page 3.

Iowa School Case Settlement Near

Announcement by the school board of St. Donatus, Ia., that a new public school would be opened by mid-January gives promise that the suit against the board filed recently by Jackson County Schools Superintendent L. L. Long (*Church and State Newsletter*, December, 1950) will be settled out of court. Previously, the board had been operating a so-called "public school" in the St. Donatus Roman Catholic parochial school building. This building has now reverted to its parochial school status. (RNS)

BACK FROM ROME



Paul Blanshard (above), author of the best-selling "*American Freedom and Catholic Power*," will analyze the Vatican's role in international politics at the Third National Conference on Church and State at Constitution Hall on February 1. He has spent much of the past year as the "Nation's" correspondent in Rome.

REGISTER TODAY!

Reserved seat tickets for the Feb. 1 Conference Mass Meeting are available only to those registering in advance of January 26. Use form on back page.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SPEAKING SCHEDULE

POAU Executive Director Glenn L. Archer has been engaged to deliver major addresses this month before a group of government officials in Washington on Thursday, January 11; at a Freedom Forum in the Mount Vernon Baptist Church, Arlington, Va., on Monday, January 15; and at a Religious Liberty Rally in Syria Mosque, Pittsburgh, Pa., on Thursday, January 18.

He is also scheduled to speak on "Maintaining Separation of Church and State" at a forum of the Washington Federation of Churches on Wednesday, February 7.

We heard only the other day of a bookseller in a Midwest town, himself a devout Catholic, who thus replied to his priest's order that he remove the Blanshard book (American Freedom and Catholic Power) from his shelves: "Father, my boy died in Normandy to preserve our right to freedom of speech and thought. I don't know what Mr. Blanshard's point is, for I haven't read his book. But he has a right to say his say, and my customers have the right to buy his book. If my church is right, no criticism can harm her. If she's wrong, and this book helps to set her right, then both democracy and faith have been served in the way my boy died to see them served."

We don't know how his priest rates that parent. But in our book he's a Christian American whose tribe we pray will increase! — Christian Herald, July, 1950.

Schools Question Due to Erupt In New Hampshire Legislature

Unless the friends of religious liberty get busy in New Hampshire, the state may soon emulate Massachusetts in recognizing parochial schools as quasi-public institutions entitled to state support. A formula which would allow this has been placed in the hands of 423 state legislators by the New Hampshire State Board of Education, with a recommendation that the legislature should test the constitutionality of the plan as quickly as possible.

According to Religious News Service, Franklin Hollis of Concord, a prominent corporation lawyer and member of the Education Board, backs the plan as one which approaches "the subject of parochial school aid in an indirect manner" with sufficient finesse to "stand the test of a State Supreme Court challenge."

Ostensibly, the main purpose of the formula is to give state aid to all communities which spend more than \$18 per \$1,000 of "adjusted equalized" property valuations to match a minimum yardstick of \$175 for every elementary school pupil and \$225 for every high school student. It was worked out in response to a request by the 1949 legislature for a formula which would "consider all children of New Hampshire" as eligible for state aid.

Success Doubted

Many Roman Catholic laymen, however, have indicated skepticism as to the efficacy of the current proposal, much as they might like to see it succeed. According to their view, the legislature cannot under the state constitution appropriate money for private schools, regardless of what "formula" it may draw up on paper.

Citizens who value their free public school system and constitutional guarantees of religious liberty must nevertheless put themselves on the alert in New Hampshire to ensure that no scheme for union of church and state be put through in the form of the current bill or in any other guise.

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ARCHER HAILS MASONS' DEVOTION TO FREEDOM

An overflow audience attending a "Masonic Night" celebration in Alexandria, Va., recently, heard POAU Executive Director Glenn L. Archer pay tribute to what he called the "major role" which the Masonic Order played in "laying the foundations of American freedom." The observance—an annual event of The First Christian Church, Disciples, of Alexandria—was presided over by the Rev. Wilbur S. Hogevoel, host pastor.

The POAU leader called attention to the fact that all but six of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence were Masons. "The first President, George Washington, was a Mason," he said.

"The spirit of the Masons of yesterday—the spirit which gave us freedom—must be matched by the Masons of today, that freedom may be preserved," Archer concluded.

California Commission Won't Rebuild Church

A request for state aid in rebuilding the Columbia Community Presbyterian Church in Columbia Historic State Park, California, has been denied by the park commissioners, who have advised Pastor Joseph N. Hillhouse to appeal for funds from voluntary, rather than state, sources. The church, which was the oldest Presbyterian structure in California, was destroyed by fire last June.

Pastor Hillhouse had asked the Park Commission for funds to help in the construction of a replica of the historic site, or for authorization to replace it with a modern church structure. Commissioner Charles Casch of Yucaipa replied: "We can't build on property we don't own, and we can't support church activities under the Constitution."

TO PRESIDE



Dr. Louie D. Newton (above), chairman of POAU's Board of Trustees, will preside over the Board's executive session at the Third National Conference on Church and State, Jan. 31-Feb. 1, 1951.

PRESS FOR ACTION IN MISSOURI CASE

Preliminary motions in the Missouri schools case have been taken under advisement by Circuit Court Judge Sam C. Blair, and present indications are that actual hearing of the suit brought by the Missouri Association for Free Public Schools (a POAU affiliate) will get under way in March. Defendants in the case are some 30 Roman Catholic parochial school educators and five state officials who are accused of unlawfully allocating public funds for the support of parochial institutions in four counties. (*Church and State Newsletter*, October and November, 1950.)

Church and State Newsletter

Compiled and Circulated by
Protestants and Other Americans United for
Separation of Church and State
1633 Mass. Ave., N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

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CHURCH AND STATE NEWSLETTER

THIRD NATIONAL CONFERENCE

on Separation of Church and State

PROGRAM

Executive Sessions, Wednesday, January 31, 1951

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

National Headquarters Building
1633 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.

DR. LOUIE D. NEWTON, Presiding

Agenda

1. Invocation Dr. Frank H. Yost
2. Reading of Minutes Dr. J. M. Dawson
3. Report of the Treasurer E. H. DeGroot, Jr.
4. Report of Executive Director Glenn L. Archer
(Board's Report to N.A.C.)
5. Election of Officers (President, 3 Vice-Presidents, Recording Secretary, Treasurer)
6. Submission of Budget for 1951-52
7. Pronouncement on Policy
8. Directives for 1951-52

NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

National Headquarters Building
1633 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.

DR. EDWIN MCNEILL POTEAT, Presiding

Agenda

1. Invocation Rev. George Tappan
2. Reading of Minutes and Roll Call Dr. J. M. Dawson
3. Nomination and election of new members of N.A.C.
4. Treasurer's Report E. H. DeGroot, Jr.
5. Report from Board of Trustees Dr. Louie D. Newton
6. Adoption of 1951-52 Budget
7. Election of Board of Trustees (2-yr. period—15 Members from N.A.C.)
8. Report of Building Committee Dr. Charl O. Williams
9. Directives to Board of Trustees 1951-52

DAY-TIME SESSION—Thursday, Feb. 1, 1951

At St. John's Episcopal Parish House
16th St. and H., N.W. (opposite the White House)

DR. LOUIE D. NEWTON, Presiding

- 9:00 A.M., and thereafter: REGISTRATION, group assignments, viewing book and literature displays.
9:30 A.M., INVOCATION, KEYNOTE ADDRESS, Dr. Frank H. Yost.
10:15 A.M., WHO'S WHO AT THE CONFERENCE, led by Dr. Newton
10:30 A.M., "WORKSHOPS FOR FREEDOM" (Discussion groups open to all)

I.

Effective POAU Local Chapters
How to organize and carry on the program of POAU in your community or state.

Miss Amanda McDonald, Chicago, Chairman.
Dr. Theodore Adams, Richmond, Va., Vice-Chairman.
Resource persons: Mrs. Irma Carpenter, Chicago; Rev. George Tappan, Binghamton, N. Y.; Mr. Samuel Hann, Baltimore; A. R. Grecol, Cincinnati, Ohio; Dr. Charl O. Williams.

Staff Consultant: John C. Mayne.

II.

The Legal Approach to Church-State Problems.

Actual field reports of violations, and suggestions for action in the legal field.

Dr. Alvin Johnson, Takoma Park, Chairman.

Resource Persons: Hon. Harry C. Avery, St. Louis; The Rev. Dr. R. L. Decker, Kansas City; Dr. Leo Pfeffer, New York City; Dr. Frederick C. Fowler, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Wm. R. Scott, Monteagle, Tenn.
Consultant: Dr. Frank H. Yost, Washington, D. C.

III.

Telling the Story of Religious Liberty.

Rev. N. B. Habel, Boykins, Va.; Vice-Chairman, Dr. V. T. Thayer, Arlington, Va.; Dr. Ellis Dana, Madison, Wisc.; Rev. Robert W. Shaw, Bethesda, Md.
Dr. Heber H. Votaw, Takoma Park, Chairman.
Consultant: Dr. J. M. Dawson, Washington, D. C.

12:15 P.M., LUNCHEON. LEE HOUSE HOTEL, 15th & L Sts., N. W. (Make Reservations with POAU)

2:30 P.M. "WORKSHOPS FOR FREEDOM" (resumed)

4:15 P.M. SUMMARY OF WORKSHOP ACTIVITY.

4:45 P.M. AFTERNOON CLOSING ADDRESS.

MASS MEETING—CONSTITUTION HALL

Thursday, 8:00 P.M.

February 1, 1951

DR. CHARLES CLAYTON MORRISON, Presiding

Organ Prelude, 7:45 to 8:00 P.M.

Invocation

Music American University Mixed Glee Club
Miss Jeanette Wells, Director

Address Dr. Edwin McNeill Poteat
President, POAU and Pastor, Pullen Memorial Baptist Church, Raleigh, N. C.

Offering

"Lord's Prayer" Mr. Fague Springmann
Soloist on Bell Telephone Hour and Carnegie Hall Radio Program

Address Mr. Paul Blanshard
Author, *American Freedom and Catholic Power*
Benediction

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BUST THAT BALLOON!

A few months ago, President Truman announced he was considering appointing a full-time ambassador to the Vatican. This was a "trial balloon." If you value American liberty, if you think democracy worth keeping . . .

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2. BOTH YOUR SENATORS**

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Melish Case Headed For Supreme Court

Contesting the right of a civil authority to intervene "in the affairs of any religious organization or group," the Rev. John Howard Melish, 75-year-old ousted rector of New York City's Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, has applied to the United States Supreme Court for a review of lower court decisions sustaining his removal in March, 1949, by Bishop James P. deWolfe of the Long Island Diocese.

Dr. Melish's removal was an outgrowth of dissension caused by the "outside activities" of his son and associate, the Rev. William Howard Melish, in connection with the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, which he then headed. At the time, a majority of Holy Trinity's vestrymen supported the removal of Dr. Melish, but the majority of his parishioners have since indicated their support of Dr. Melish by replacing seven of the nine vestrymen who sought Dr. Melish's removal.

Jurisdiction Questioned

The petition alleges that the use of a court injunction to compel compliance with a church official's directive is a violation of the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. It states further that the canon law of the Long Island Diocese was ignored, rather than implemented, by the court—for the canon law provides that disobedience of an episcopal judgment shall be punished by loss of representation for the congrega-

tion in the diocesan convention. "In these circumstances," Dr. Melish's petition continues, "the civil court had no power to grant an injunction compelling compliance with the bishop's judgment on pain of fine and imprisonment for contempt."

The Melish case has been described by Dr. Anson Phelps Stokes in his three-volume work, *Church and State in the United States*, as "one of the most important cases in recent years involving Church-State relations."

Reformation Day Inspires Contributions to POAU

Offerings taken at Reformation Day services have been transmitted to POAU by the Rev. John E. Bauer, minister of the First Presbyterian Church of the Highlands, Highland Falls, N. Y.; the Rev. Eugene J. Hurdle, Jr., pastor of the Christian Rose Cross (Rosicrucian) Church, Takoma Park, Md.; and the Rev. James T. Burrell, minister of the First Baptist Church, Forsyth, Ga. The contribution sent by Dr. Bauer represented the joint effort of four Highland Falls-area churches. In addition to his own, donations were made by the Rev. Frank W. Coutant, minister of the Methodist Church; the Rev. C. D. Cuffie, minister of the A. M. E. Zion Church; and Major Herman J. Kregel, chaplain, the Post Chapel, U. S. M. A., West Point, N. Y.

Another contribution, sent by the Rev. N. B. Habel, of Boykins, Va., represented the offerings taken at the Community Thanksgiving Services in Boykins and Branchville. Dr. Habel is pastor of the Boykins Baptist Church.

SIGNIFICANT NEW BOOKS

THE CHURCH AND CONTEMPORARY CHANGE. By G. Bromley Oxnam. Macmillan, New York: 1950. 131 pp. + vii. \$2.50.

PSYCHOANALYSIS AND RELIGION. By Erich Fromm. Yale University Press, New Haven: 1950. 119 pp. + vii. \$2.50.

MORAL VALUES AND SECULAR EDUCATION. By Robert E. Mason. Columbia University Press, New York: 1950. 155 pp. + viii. \$2.75.

It is remarkable that Bishop Oxnam, Dr. Fromm and Dr. Mason—each a specialist approaching the general problem of religion and society from a different orientation—formulate their proposals in terms of the same basic values, using, at times, almost the same words.

Bishop Oxnam, a top Methodist leader, calls for "an approach . . . not in terms of pre-determined dogmatism but in terms of the Christian Gospel, resolving to use scientific means to achieve moral ends," and emphasizes ". . . the trend . . . from a religion based on authority to a religion grounded in experience." His chapter, "Religious Liberty in the Changing World," is of special interest to POAU members.

Dr. Fromm, a prominent psychiatrist, draws a contrast between the "authoritarian" and "humanistic" trends which he says are found historically in every great religion. By specific reference to the Old and New Testaments, Buddhist and Indian literature, Jewish Chassidic tales, Lao-tse, Socrates, Spinoza, Jesus and others, he arrives at the conclusion
(Continued on page 6)

CHURCH AND STATE NEWSLETTER

Spellman Criticizes White House Conference

Many liberty-loving Americans were indignant at the attack which Francis Cardinal Spellman is reported to have made upon the Mid-Century White House Conference on Children and Youth for its "strong opposition to God." According to an Associated Press dispatch of December 15, 1950, the Cardinal said that "opposition to religion was bitterly expressed" at the Conference. But many who were present feel that this criticism is completely unjustified, especially since the Conference recommendations were approved through accepted democratic procedures, after full and open debate upon the floor. Scores of Roman Catholic clergymen and laymen took part in the discussions, although Spellman was not present as a delegate.

The writer, a delegate representing Missouri, was present, and saw no bitterness. The majority merely accepted the long-established principle that public funds shall not be used to aid sectarian teaching. A number of proposals incorporating state aid for sectarian groups were defeated, and some of the proponents may have been bitter when they were defeated.

If there was "opposition to God," it certainly could not be found in the

keynote address of the Rev. Dr. George Buttrick of New York City, nor in the speech of President Truman, for both made fervent pleas for a greater spiritual emphasis in American life. Religion was given high place in the various discussion groups and in the beautiful displays in the great Armory Hall.

The Conference delegates expressed a strong concern for religion. Attempts to discount this concern and to shatter the unity of this great White House Conference by ill-timed and unwarranted criticism is regrettable. One recommendation passed by an overwhelming majority said that "knowledge and understanding of religious and ethical concepts are essential to the development of spiritual values, and that nothing is of greater importance to the moral and spiritual health of the nation." At another point, an additional recommendation was incorporated which urged "churches of various faiths to strengthen and expand their religious services and activities with particular respect to rural areas and those in special need."

It was not the omission of God but of public funds for parochial schools which offended the Cardinal.—J.C.M.

New York POAU'ers Set Up Educational Unit

Leaders in metropolitan New York have moved to set up a POAU educational center in the city. John V. Watson, Columbia University-trained journalist, is acting secretary of the group. Glenn L. Archer, POAU executive director, will address an organizational meeting in the near future.

G. Bromley Oxnam, Methodist bishop of the New York area and a POAU vice-president, and various other church and lay leaders are cooperating in the formation of the unit.

ISRAELI SCHOOLS CHIEF BACKS FULL FREEDOM

The right of Christian missionary schools to full and free operation in Israel, and the right of Jewish parents to send their children to such schools, have been upheld by David Remez, minister of education, in a recent speech to the Israeli parliament. Remez maintained that every parent in Israel has the right to choose any approved school—public, private or missionary—for his children.

The speech constituted a rebuff to the Religious Front, which had demanded that Christian children only be allowed to attend missionary schools. (RNS)

GET THE FACTS!

The following literature can be obtained from Protestants and Other Americans United, 1633 Mass. Ave., N. W., Washington 6, D. C., at \$4.00 a hundred, 50¢ a dozen, 5¢ a single copy:

Church and State Newsletter (A copy of each issue free to members.)

POAU Manifesto

Freedom: Heritage or Victory, EDWIN MCNEILL POTEAT

Keep Church and State Separatist, CHARLES CLAYTON MORRISON

Issue of the Day, ARCHER VS. SPELLMAN

Status of Religious Education in the Public Schools

Protestant Leaders Reply to Pope's Plea

Monk Bryan's Address on Church and State

The Objectives of POAU, CHARLES CLAYTON MORRISON

Religious Liberty Articles, reprinted from *Baptist Leader*

The Protestant Contribution to Freedom, G. BROMLEY OXNAM

Shadows Over Our Schools, FRANK S. MEAD

The School, the State, and the Church, AGNES E. MEYER

A Reply to Archbishop Cushing's Attack on POAU, G. BROMLEY OXNAM

A Summons to Protestants, C. STANLEY LOWELL

Alerted and Committed, G. BROMLEY OXNAM

An Open Letter

"... Catholics Look for Full Aid..." reprinted from *Detroit News*

... *State-Church Strikes at Schools*, E. E. ROGERS

Radio Interview With Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam

Protestants Awake!, G. BARRETT RICH III

The Battle for Freedom, GLENN L. ARCHER

The Book They Couldn't Ban, reprinted from *Christian Herald*

Protestants Must Choose, ARNOLD HILMAR LOWE

... *Church and State in Education*, VIVIAN T. THAYER

... *The First Freedom*, MILTON R. KONVITZ

A Basis for Moral Conduct, JAMES BRYANT CONANT

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Archbishop Orders Boycott After Failure of Film Ban

The Italian motion picture, "The Miracle," has resumed playing to record-breaking crowds at the Paris Theater, in New York City—but its patrons must pass through lines of marching pickets to enter the theater. This is because Francis Cardinal Spellman has called upon all Roman Catholics, as "the guardians of the moral law," to do everything possible to stop the showing of the film. The boycott move was launched after an effort at one-man censorship by License Commissioner Edward T. McCaffrey was ruled illegal by Supreme Court Justice Aron Steuer.

The film had already been seen by about 25,000 persons when Commissioner McCaffrey forced the theater to withdraw it on penalty of revocation of its license. The withdrawal was only temporary, however. The film's distributor, Joseph Burstyn, retained the law firm of Basil O'Connor and John Farber, as well as his personal attorney, Ephraim London, to take the case to court. He argued that "The Miracle" had been passed by the United States Customs and the New York State Board of Censors, and "approved and highly recommended" by the National Board of Review. (In addition, it was part of an omnibus presentation of three films under the general title, "Ways of Love," which had received the New York Film Critics Award as the best foreign picture of the year. But to License Commissioner McCaffrey, it was a "blasphemous affront to a great many of our fellow citizens.")

Judge's Decision

Justice Steuer decided that the "right to determine whether a motion picture is indecent, immoral or sacrilegious is vested solely and exclusively in the Education Department of the State." He added that the people, if they deemed the picture offensive, "can protect themselves, first, by ignoring the exhibition, and, secondly, any individual can seek to have the Board of Regents revoke its permit, or, if he can show that the license was granted through an abuse of power, he will find the court just as ready to relieve against such an abuse as it is to restrain this one."

Burstyn, the distributor, and Cardinal Spellman have contradicted each other regarding the attitude of the Vatican towards the picture. Burstyn claims that the film was shown in 1948 at the Venice Film Festival, and that it was approved at that time by an "official representative" of the

Vatican. He adds that he has documents to prove this. But Cardinal Spellman and other spokesmen for the hierarchy in America insist that the picture is, and has always been, absolutely condemned by the Vatican.

EIRE BANS 'LIFE'

Life magazine has been banned in the Republic of Ireland on the ground that the popular American magazine "has usually or frequently been indecent or obscene." The ban was imposed by the Irish Censorship of Publications Board.

Books

(Continued from page 4)

that the "attitude common to the teachings of the founders of all great Eastern and Western religions is one in which the supreme aim of living is concerned with man's soul and the unfolding of his powers of love and reason"—a concern which cannot be properly exercised by any religion when it is found in alliance with the secular state.

Dr. Mason, an assistant professor of education at Brooklyn College, deplores the existence of pressure-blocs within the community "advocating private and uncritical methods in preference to public, critical problem-solving" as a "deep and serious challenge to freedom." Religious doctrines and beliefs, he holds, may be examined and discussed as a part of cultural history in the public schools, just as political and social doctrines may be examined and discussed—provided that it is done in a free atmosphere with allowance for differences of opinion. "But commitment to any system of religious belief . . . must be viewed as highly unfortunate. The supreme loyalty is to free, critical, human intelligence."

U. S. 'DOING BUSINESS' WITH FASCIST SPAIN

Just before the old year, 1950, bowed its weary way out, another calamity was added to the many which had occurred during those twelve months. The United States Government announced the resumption of diplomatic relations with Spain (called "Christian Spain" by Roman Catholic leaders), and the appointment of Stanton Griffis as our ambassador to Franco. The announcement was made not many weeks after President Truman had told a press conference that it would be "a long, long time" before the United States would appoint another ambassador to Spain.

In order to explain the apparent about-face, the Chief Executive declared that he had not changed his mind one bit about Franco Spain, but that re-establishment of ambassadorial relations was necessary to bring about "a more orderly way of doing business."

Some observers wondered whether the Administration, if it now considers it reasonable to "do business" with the Fascist, Franco, as an ally in the struggle with Communism, may not also find it reasonable in the near future to "do business" with the Pope by sending an ambassador to the Vatican. Both these totalitarian leaders are opposed to Communism because its totalitarianism is in competition with their own; both would utilize the prestige and power of the United States, not merely to defeat Communism, but also to enthrone their own brand of tyranny in its place.

Freedom-loving Americans must bend every effort to see that the Administration's blunder of "doing business" with Franco is not followed by the blunder of "doing business" with the Pope. Let the President, your Senators and other representatives hear of your opposition to this move! Send for quantities of POAU'S "Bust That Balloon!" post card (35 for \$1.00—see page 4).

"When a religion is good I conceive that it will support itself, and when it cannot support itself and God does not take care to support it, so that its professors are obliged to call for help of the civil power, it is a sign, I apprehend, of its being a bad one."
—Benjamin Franklin.

CHURCH AND STATE NEWSLETTER

Catholicism No Answer to Communism, World-Famous Philosopher Declares

It is "a dangerous error to think that the evils of communism can be combated by Catholicism," Bertrand Russell, Nobel Prize-winning philosopher and mathematician, declared in a recent lecture at Columbia University. His talk, which was the third in a series of Matchette Foundation lectures, broke all records for attendance, with hundreds being turned away.

Speaking on "The Impact of Science on Society," Russell said that mankind is on the threshold of a better world, provided three conditions are met: abolition of war, even distribution of ultimate power and limitation of the growth of population. Both communism and the Roman Catholic church block the way to realization of these conditions, he continued. He listed communism's evils as follows:

"Adherence to a rigid and static system of doctrine, of which part is doubtful and part demonstrably false; persecution as a means of enforcing orthodoxy; a belief that salvation is only to be found within the church and that the True Faith must be spread throughout the world, by force if necessary; that the priesthood, which alone has the right to interpret the Scriptures, has enormous power, physical east of the Iron Curtain and spiritual over the faithful *in partibus*; that this power is used to secure an undue share of wealth for the priesthood at the expense of the rest of the population; and that bigotry, and the hostility that it engenders, is a potent source of war."

Nothing to Choose

"Every one of these evils," Russell went on, "was exhibited by the Catholic Church when it had power, and would probably be exhibited again if it recovered the position it had in the Middle Ages. It is therefore irrational to suppose that much would be gained if, in the defeat of communism, Catholicism were enthroned in its place."

"... There must be the traditional liberal freedoms of speech, press, religion, etc., with the generally accepted common-sense limitations."

"The root of the matter is a very simple and old-fashioned thing, a thing so simple that I am almost ashamed to mention it, for fear of the derisive smile with which wise cynics will greet my words. The thing I mean—please forgive me for mentioning it—is love, Christian love, or compassion. If you feel this you have a motive for existence, a guide in action, a reason for courage. . . ."

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Japanese Censor

Catholic Digest

Action to end a ban placed by Japanese prison wardens on Roman Catholic publications has been asked by the Japanese editor of the *Catholic Digest*, a monthly whose central headquarters are located in St. Paul, Minn. The ban is in effect in prisons of the Kinki district, which includes Osaka, Kyoto and other cities.

The *Digest*—known in Japan as *Katorikku Shimbun*—was banned on motion of a delegate to a meeting of prison wardens, who argued that Catholic publications should be banned because they represent the "extreme right," just as Communist publications were banned because they represent the "extreme left." The man who made the motion is a Buddhist *bonza*, or cleric.

The editor of the *Digest* has complained to the attorney general in Tokyo—thereby revealing that, where his own toes are stepped upon, he is concerned about issues of free speech. It was not so when Margaret Sanger, world-famous leader of the Planned Parenthood movement, was barred from entering Japan nearly a year ago. Mrs. Sanger, whose lecture tour was to have been sponsored by a Japanese newspaper, was barred under "pressure from Catholic Church groups." (*Church and State Newsletter*, March, 1950.)

Top Students Aided

By POAU School Fund

The first awards under POAU's new program of educational aid have been made at the American University, Washington, D. C., and the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, Takoma Park, D. C. Donald W. Osten, a Ph.D. student, has received a grant for a projected study of U. S. diplomatic relations with the Vatican, with American University President Paul Douglass acting as mentor. Another grant has been shared by Robert L. Wood and William T. Hyde, Seventh-day Adventist graduate students, for papers on tax exemption of ecclesiastical property and the effects of church-state separation on the growth of religious sects.

Further awards will be made to meritorious students at various colleges and universities.

An Outstanding Book - - -

"SEPARATE CHURCH AND STATE NOW!"

By Dr. Joseph M. Dawson

Sample chapter headings: "The Drift Toward Church-State Union," "America's Stake in Her Public Schools," "Can We Risk Free Speech?" "The Dread Power of the Totalitarian State," "The Real Road to Freedom."

By special arrangement with the publisher, POAU, 1633 Massachusetts Ave., N. W., Washington 6, D. C., is supplying this \$2.50 book for only \$1.50. (*This is less than actual publication and handling costs.*)

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(An excellent book for study groups, address-preparation, club reviews, etc.)

REGISTER

NOW

for This Great Conference!

Laymen, teachers, lawyers, clergymen, and other citizens concerned for Religious Liberty should register early for this Conference. Churches and POAU Chapters should send delegations. The "Workshops" on Thursday morning and afternoon are open to all Registrants.

Two reserved-seat tickets for the Poteat-Blanshard Feb. 1 Mass Meeting will be mailed to each person registering BEFORE Jan. 26.



(Cut out and mail today)

REGISTRATION BLANK

Third National Conference on Church and State, February 1, 1951.
Constitution Hall, Washington, D. C.

Send to:

Protestants and Other Americans United. (Advance Registration \$1.00)
1633 Mass. Ave., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

Enclosed please find \$1.00 for my Registration at the Conference.

Name

(Give title: Rev., Mr., Mrs., Miss, Dr.)

Address

City

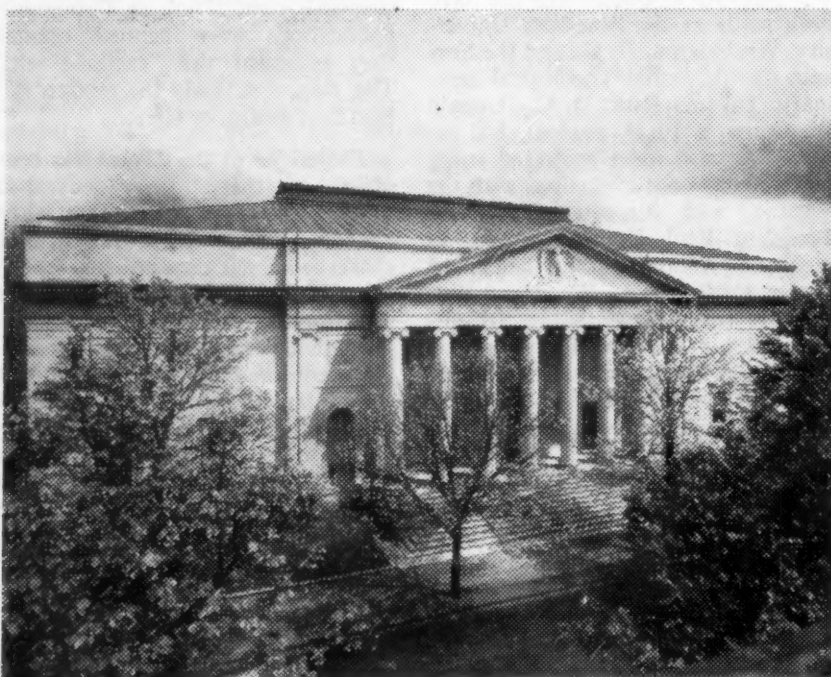
Organization Represented

Program and 2 seat reservations for mass meeting will be sent to all those registering before Jan. 26.

NOTE: If you cannot attend this year (check x)—

() I cannot be present personally this year, but wish to give \$_____ to be used for () Student Registrations, or () Conference expenses.

SITE OF NATIONAL CONFERENCE



Historic Constitution Hall (above) will be the setting for the great evening Mass Meeting of POAU's Third National Conference on Church and State on Thursday, February 1, 1951, in Washington, D. C.

CHURCH AND STATE NEWSLETTER

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Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation
of Church and State

1633 Massachusetts Ave., N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

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FCC Examiner Turns Down Church Radio Bid

A renewed application by the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints for a radio station at Independence, Mo., has been denied by Federal Communications Commission Hearing Examiner J. D. Bond on the ground that granting of the license would violate separation of church and state. An earlier decision (*Church and State Newsletter*, November, 1950) had skirted the issue, but the attorney for the Mormon group had pressed for a determination on the constitutional question.

"This applicant," stated the Hearing Examiner, "seeks the license right of exclusive daytime occupancy over a large area of a regional broadcast frequency, which, according to the law and to the Commission's rule, is intended for service of the public interest, convenience and necessity." The FCC does not have the power to declare the proselytizing activities of any religious group a matter of public interest, Examiner Bond held. He added that several radio station grants have been issued to other church groups, but only for regular commercial radio stations which sell time on the air to others.

Texas Case Pends

The same question will also be raised in the pending application of the Texas State Baptist Convention for a series of low-powered FM stations to be operated by Baptist churches. When the case is heard, it is likely that the FCC will enter a formal decision as to its interpretation of the First Amendment as applied to the field of radio and television.